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APPOMATTOX, VIRGINIA

A LIVE WEEKLY NEWSPAPER AT HISTORIC APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE VIRGINIA

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Father Darkleaf

By Calvin Robinson

Weatherwise, 1969 is going it as anything but "the Sizzling xties." And we are not anxious r 1970 to "come in as a Lion." owever, it is my intention to atch the Old Year out and the ew Year in. Heavens to Betsy, e owe that much respect to ather Time.

I called Town Manager C. S. ooth and asked him what would his "New Year Wish" for ppomattox for 1970. That is t an easy question to answer the spur of the moment. But ir Town Manager did not hesit- e. He had this in mind: a ontinuation of the spirit of operation between the tizens and the town, a growth public services to match the owth of the town, and further pansion of town sewer and ater lines.

One of our top friends had r young grandson in the car mber, and she kept remark- g that there was some thing e was supposed to remember do but she had forgotten what was. Finally, the wise young ndson said: "Forget what u forgot." Ah yes, good unsel, for 1969 is History, 70 is in the lap of destiny: t THIS very moment is yours d yours alone.

Mr. and Mrs. George B. chanan send Season's Greet- gs to their many friends here. am happy to pass on their eetings to you. He is a former ayor of Appomattox and his esent address: 2172 8th Ave. W. Largo, Florida, 33540.

* * *

John James Audobon was born ar New Orleans May 4, 1780, French ancestry. I was born Norfolk, Va., Dec. 21, 1905, English - Welch ancestry. at does not give us much in mmon. But something in com- n there is: we like Birds. painted them and I feed them. s ornithological master- ces are gems of art. Call r bird - feeding what you ll, but at the moment I have enty - four birds of four rts eating away on my side- lk.

* * *

n one of his short stories, famous O. Henry wrote of w York City, saying . . . ittle old Noisyville - on - the - ay is good enough for me." e Darkleaf Twist makes it se out: "Growing, sprawling ppomattox - on - 460 is good ough for me."

* * *

Congratulations to Mr. and s. W. E. Layne, Spout Spring the happy occasion of their ieth wedding anniversary.

* * *

We will arise and sing, with por, all verses of " O Happy y" when the new telephone rectories arrive. "Operator " tells me that it will not long now, and I know she ll be happy about it, for so iny numbers have changed and w ones added since the old rectories were issued, in fact, ominated "Operator O" for e award for patience and urtesy.

* * *

Thrown in for free: If you y out to give the Newborn 70 its first burp, let some- e else drive you home. Let's ake 1970 a safer year.

A new comet, named for its scovers, will be visible in skies January 6, Japanese servers named it: Tago - lo - Kosaka 1969 - G. But r best chance of seeing it y be as late as Jan. 15, out four hours after sunset. d in March a total eclipse the Sun is expected.

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As another year "folds its ts and silently steals away" y I thank you for being a d audience and wish you the t for 1970. We'll just keep ling along, singing a song, e by side.

Rabies Clinic

The Appomattox County alth Department announces re will be a dog rabies cination clinic on Thursday, uary 8, 1970 from 2:00 to 0 p.m. at the Fire House in ppomattox, Virginia. The fee this clinic will be $1.50 per . Dogs over 4 months of age y be vaccinated.

HAPPY NEW YEAR GREETINGS TO ALL

Elon Church Addition

Snow was deep, but the building committee and pastor of Elon Baptist Church, Pamplin were among the many area church goers Sunday. Behind them is the classroom addition set for completion sometime in January. Three classrooms, a pastor's study and assembly hall will be included in the completed structure. From the left: Frank Gilliam, William Hix, Mrs. W. C. Dudley, and the Rev. Ray Harley, who is also pastor of Glen Memorial, Prospect. Serving with them are Mrs. Nancy Dickerson, T. Cecil Ligion and James M. Cobb, Jr., chairman. J. E. Jamerson and Sons is the contractor for the construction, third addition in the church's long history. Cost will be almost $15,000.

$1 Million Aid For Victims Of Flood

Richmond – Gov. Mills E. Godwin, Jr., Monday announced that many Virginia victims of the effects of Hurricane Camille in August will be eligible for disaster unemployment benefits under the recent enacted federal Disaster Relief Act.

Gov. Godwin, speaking at his year - end news conference, said it is estimated that almost 5,000 people in Virginia will be eligible for a total of $1 million in disaster unemployment benefits under Section 12 of the act. The Virginia Employment Commission will be responsible for the determination and payment of benefits in the 24 counties and the City of Richmond which were designated as aid areas.

Commissioner William L. Heartwell, Jr., of the VEC meanwhile announced that VEC offices in the designated areas will begin taking claims for the benefits Jan. 12. Besides Richmond, the counties designated for jobless aid are Albermarle, Alleghany, Amherst, Augusta, Bath, Bedford, Botetourt, Buckingham, Caroline, Chesterfield, Cumberland, Essex, Fluvanna, Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, King and Queen, King William, Nelson Northumberland, Powhatan, Rockbridge, Spotsylvania, and Westmoreland, as well as the cities and towns located within the boundaries of those counties.

People who qualify will receive benefits ranging from $35 to $48 per week for as long as 26 weeks.

Holidays End

Boys and girls of the public school system of Appomattox will end a two-week holiday on Monday, January 5 with the resumption of classes following a Christmas-New Year's holiday which began Friday, December 19.

Water Hearing Jan. 7

The State Water Control Board has announced a series of public hearings to be conducted throughout Virginia to hear from persons and organizations interested in proposed amendments to the standards of water quality for all waters within the state.

The six public hearings, the first to be held in Richmond Jan. 5, and the final one in Norfolk on Jan. 12, will review amendments being proposed because of recent requirements imposed on the state by the U. S. Secretary of the Interior.

Lynchburg, and most of Central Virginia, is included in the Roanoke District, where a public hearing is scheduled at the National Guard Armory in Roanoke, Jan. 7.

Other public hearings will be conducted in Abingdon Jan. 6,

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Unitary Plan Sent To HEW

The desegregation plans recently submitted to the Regional HEW office in Charlottesville by the Appomattox County School Board have been forwarded to the Washington office with the recommendation that enforcement proceedings be initiated. The plan, as submitted by the School Board, called for the reorganization of the county schools into a unitary system effective September, 1970.

The Washington office has been contacted and a conference set for Tuesday, Jan. 6 to discuss the matter further.

Bloodmobile Will Be Here 27th

The Red Cross Bloodmobile is coming Tuesday, January 27th – and EVERY available donor is needed to take Appomattox off the probation list. Hours are 12 noon to 6 p.m. at Liberty Baptist Church.

Electro Ag January 21

Plans are proceeding for county participation in Electro Ag'70, the Virginia Agricultural Materials Handling Exposition consisting of exhibits, demonstrations and literature on equipment for saving labor and increasing farm production efficiency. This will be a two-day exposition Jan. 21-22 at the Richmond Arena.

In recent planning sessions professional agricultural workers and others have decided to invite farmers to pool cars and go as a group.

Persons interested in going are asked to meet at the Appomattox County cannery at 8 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 21.

Automobile drivers will include Bob Martin, Bill Hunter, J. N. Jennings, H. B. Pack and J. A. Smith.

photo courtesy Nat. Park Service

Clover Hill Tavern as it looked in 1939 before extensive restoration was undertaken by the National Park Service. Built in 1819 by the Patteson family as a stop on the Richmond - Lynchburg Stage Road, it was later known as Raines Tavern and was the meeting place for the justices from four counties who met in May, 1845 to form a new county government.

photo courtesy Nat. Park Service

Clover Hill Tavern as it looks today. Used as a visitors' center before reconstruction of the Court House in 1965, it now serves as office space for the park superintendent, historian and other personnel.

67% Of Deaths Are CVD Type

The Piedmont Heart Association has reported that 52 per cent of deaths in Virginia during 1968 were due to cardiovascular disease.

Of the 39,687 deaths in the state last year, 20,680 were caused by CVD.

Appomattox county reported 98 deaths from all causes with 66 caused by cardiovascular disease with a percentage of 67. A comparison with two neighboring counties shows Prince Edward with 58%, Campbell county with 57%.

Christmas Snow Measures 12.7 In.

Official records at Va. State Police headquarters, Appomattox, put the Christmas day snowfall at 12.7 inches, the first measurable snowfall of the season. Intermittent flurries earlier in the day changed to a steady snowfall in mid afternoon which continued until early morning hours of December 26. Extension agent J. A. Smith says that the 12.7 inches of snow equals 1.1 inches of rain. As county young - at- hearts frolicked in the white stuff there wasn't much question as to which they preferred – rainfall or snowfall.

NOTICE

There will be no window service or rural route at the Appomattox Post Office today (New Year's Day).

Appomattox Begins 125th Year As County

January 1, 1970 – the beginning of a new decade and the beginning for Appomattox County of its Quasquicentennial, the 125th year of its existence as a county.

According to a history of Appomattox county prepared by the late Claude W. Smith for the county's Centennial celebration May 1, 1945, Appomattox began a "steady and peaceful growth" after being created by the 1844-45 session of the state legislature by an act passed Feb. 8, 1845 which took effect May 1, 1845. Appomattox was made up of parts of Buckingham Prince Edward, Charlotte and Campbell Counties.

Lack of transportation and communication – and to provide farmers and others with more convenient access to a court of law - are some of the reasons for the county's formation according to Vara Smith Stanley's "History of Appomattox County" published for the county's Centennial commemoration of the signing of peace terms by Generals Lee and Grant held on April 9, 1965.

This county took its name from the Appomattox River which had been named after the earliest inhabitants who were the Appomatucks tribe of Indians.

Justices of the sections of the four counties forming the new county met at the home of Captain John Raine (Raine's Tavern) in the village of Clover Hill (later Appomattox Court House) in May of 1845 to organize the new county's government.

Only two years before the county's formation the first passenger train went through the area to Roanoke (November 1865.) Prior to this all mail and passengers were carried through the county by stage coaches, usually drawn by four horses making regular stops for rest and to change horses. Part of the stage road is preserved within the boundaries of Appomattox Court House National Historical Park circling the reconstructed Court House located just across the road from Clover Hill Tavern, the Meeks - Plunkett Store, and other buildings comprising the village of Appomattox Court House.

According to Claude Smith's history tradition claims that the word from which Appomattox gets its name meant "Tobacco Plant Country", fitting name for an area noted for its fine type of darkfired tobacco.

Appomattox land area is 343 square miles or 219,560 acres. There are 638 farms in the county with 71% of the county in woodland. Altitude varies from 350 feet at Bent Creek to 1,145 feet at Piney Mountain.

Appomattox has an average rainfall of 42.8 inches per year with a temperature average about 39 degrees in January and 76 degrees in July. Population is 10,183. There are three magisterial districts – Clover Hill, Stonewall and Southside.

Blue ribbon winner for "Window Decorations", Mr. and Mrs. Ralph King.

Blue ribbon winner for "Modern Doorway", Mr. and Mrs. K. E. Coleman.

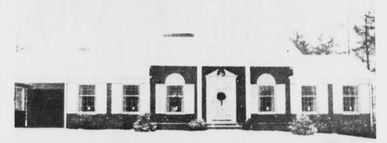
Winners Named In Decoration Contest

Winners' ribbons fluttered at the doors of fourteen county homes as awards were made to householders by the Appomattox Garden Club in the annual judging of holiday lighting of homes and doorways in Appomattox. First place award for a traditional doorway was made to Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Jamerson, Virginia Avenue. The dark green ivy provided a Christmasy setting for the colorful doorwreath in red and gold. The H. W. Conner home, also on Virginia Avenue, won a blue ribbon for "best overall". Each window is illumined with a candle with doorwreath and spotlighting to set off the entire home. Mr. and Mrs. K. E. Coleman won a blue ribbon, also, for their doorway with double golden bell arrangement surrounded by greenery and ribbon. Spotlighting adds emphasis to the scene at their home on Lucy Street. Blue ribbon winner for a decorated window went to Mr. and Mrs. Ralph King at their home on Ferguson St.

The complete list of winners announced by Garden Club president Mrs. S. B. Waddell includes the following in 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place order:

Window: Mr. and Mrs. Ralph King, Dr. and Mrs. Eugene Tutwiler, Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Gordon. Door, (Modern): Mr. and Mrs. K. E. Coleman, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Sears, Mr. and Mrs. James Beaty. Door, (Traditional): Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Jamerson, Mrs. J. E. Sears, Mrs. Merle G. Lawson.

Overall: Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Conner, Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Moses, Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. Howlette Martin, Spout Spring. Honorable mention goes to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Smith and Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Harwood, Jr.



Blue ribbon winner for "Overall Decoration", Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Conner.

Blue ribbon winner for "Traditional Doorway", Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Jamerson.